

LIT Connections

January 18, 2022

1:00-2:00



I define connection as the energy that exists between people when they feel seen, heard, and valued; when they can give and receive without judgement; and when they derive sustenance and strength from the relationship. ~ Brene Brown

Present: Cheryle Wilcox, Diane Bugbee, Alice Maynard, Keith Williams, Rachel Wassel, Kheya Ganguly, Krista Barbagallo, Donna Sherlaw, Alicia Hanrahan, Jessica Coleman, Amy Lincoln-Moore, Cinn Smith, Ann Hill, Beth Sausville

Thank you for joining us at LIT Connections today.

Our discussion today included the following:

- Updated CSP and Guidance:
 - New CSP and guidance are out with a few changes, will take time to roll out the new form, there is not a hard date that we want people to use this but we would like to make people aware so we can make the switch.
 - Last CSP update was a lengthy process and we said wouldn't change again for a long time but there was important information we needed to know to ensure equity, understand who is responsible for legal decision-making for the child, and
 - Can we add a link to the new CSP on Department websites?
 - Can we rename it something more accessible, form does not come up?
 - A parent rep shared that their team used the new form today. The youth was adopted and having the opportunity to check off more than one box for race was appreciated by adoptive parents
- Annual SIT System of Care Report:
 - On track for completing annual system of care report to be ready at the end of this month
 - We talk about the entire system with supporting data
 - Will go out far and wide
 - David is polishing it up for us like last year
 - Call out the stresses for families, work force issues
 - Narrowed the contend, more integrate
 - SIT departments shared accomplishments, moves us in a hopeful direction
- What accomplishments would people like to share about things happening locally?
- Alice – storytelling is an effective way to get people's attention, can we do more with sharing stories to give flavor of Local Interagency Team? This may speak more directly to legislators and to other families. Budgets and data important, need flesh and blood aspect
- How are LITs around the state functioning:
 - For Rutland have tried to do two LIT meetings a month, use one as a systems meeting. There are times two isn't enough. Frequency is helpful when things start getting busy.
 - Washington County and FGI County also have a meeting dedicated to systems issues
 - Waiting a month for a meeting can be untenable for a family in crisis
 - Kids may end up in the ED. Need to be able to have emergency LITs

- Bennington LITs are different. Families only come if unanimous decision is not achieved at CSP – or if they wanted more input about referring to CRC.
- Chittenden County very different – LIT includes families only if disagreement. Residential requests don't go through LIT. Once per month LIT meetings. Helps the local team sort things out, slows the process down. What other resources can be explored?
- Established parameters in the process – and pieces about the process can look different in different regions. Families always have the right to go to LIT.
- Struggling with discussion about possibility of joining together Northeast Kingdom into one LIT, and including reviews of children referred for CIS. The two regions have similarities and differences. Also, don't want families to lose the opportunity for their review at LIT.
- Can we create a "cheat sheet" with what the required parameters are and what can look different from region to region? Maybe we can discuss at a future LIT Connections meeting. Please email your thoughts to Cheryle, Beth, and Diane.